

In the Claims:

1-76. (Canceled)

77. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product comprising:

a plurality of paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers wound or stacked to form the product, each paper sheet layer having an exterior surface that defines ridges and valleys oriented in a first direction, wherein each said paper sheet layer comprises a multi-ply paper sheet or a single-ply paper sheet, wherein said paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers are positioned adjacent to each other when stacked or wound such that said ridges and valleys of each paper sheet layer are substantially parallel to said ridges and valleys of adjacent paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers when wound or stacked; and

bridging regions formed into each said exterior surface of said paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers such that said bridging regions extend outward from said exterior surface, said bridging regions having a length sufficient to extend across at least two of said ridges, said bridging regions having a length-to-depth ratio of from about 5:1 to about 40:1, said bridging regions at least partially obstructing said ridges and valleys of said surface of each paper sheet layer from mating with said ridges and valleys of said surface of adjacent paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers to inhibit nesting between each paper sheet layer when stacked or wound into the product.

78. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said bridging regions are spaced apart in rows on said surface of each paper sheet layer.

79. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 78, wherein said rows of spaced apart bridging ridges on said surface of each paper sheet layer are arranged at an angle of about 45° to said direction of said ridges.

80. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein the length of said bridging regions is substantially greater than the width of said bridging regions.

81. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein the length of said bridging regions is from about 0.125 inches to about 3 inches.

82. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein the length of said bridging regions is from about 0.375 inches to about 1.5 inches.

83. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said bridging regions have a depth of from about 0.012 inches to about 0.12 inches.

84. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said bridging regions have a depth of from about 0.045 inches to about 0.06 inches.

85. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein the length of said bridging regions extends in a direction about 90° relative to said ridges.

86. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said plurality of paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers form a continuous paper product that is wound on a roll.

87. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers are individually stacked.

88. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said paper ~~sheets are~~ sheet layers comprise single-ply paper sheets.

89. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said paper ~~sheets are~~ sheet layers comprise multi-ply paper sheets.

90. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers comprise through-dried paper webs.

91. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said paper ~~sheets~~ sheet layers comprise uncreped through-air dried paper webs.

92. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein the basis weight of each said paper sheet layer is less than 140 grams per square meter.

93. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein the basis weight of each said paper sheet layer is from about 10 grams per square meter to about 70 grams per square meter.

94. (Currently Amended) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said ridges and valleys of each paper sheet layer are in substantially parallel continuous rows.

95. (Previously Presented) A wound or stacked product as in claim 77, wherein said bridging regions form a two-dimensional sinusoidal pattern.

96. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
forming a paper web from a furnish containing cellulosic fibers, said paper web having an exterior surface that defines ridges and valleys oriented in a first direction;
drying said paper web with a through-dryer;

embossing said paper web to form bridging regions into said surface of said paper web, said bridging regions having a length sufficient to extend between at least two of said ridges defined by said surface of said paper web, said bridging regions having a length-to-depth ratio of from about 5:1 to about 40:1, said bridging regions extending outward from said exterior surface of said paper web; and

forming a wound or stacked paper product comprising a plurality of paper sheets sheet layers from said paper web, wherein each said paper sheet layer comprises a multi-ply paper web or a single-ply paper web, each said paper sheet layer being positioned adjacent to another paper sheet layer when wound or stacked to form the product such that said bridging regions at least partially obstruct said ridges and valleys of each said paper sheet layer from mating with said ridges and valleys of an adjacent paper sheet layer to inhibit nesting between each said paper sheet layer when wound or stacked into the paper product.

97. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein said paper web is dried prior to the formation of said bridging regions.

98. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein said embossing is accomplished with at least one roll having embossing elements in a certain pattern, said bridging regions having a pattern that corresponds to the pattern of said embossing elements.

99. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 98, wherein said roll applies a pressure of from about 25 pounds per linear inch to about 300 pounds per linear inch to said paper web.

100. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 98, wherein said roll is formed from steel, aluminum, magnesium, brass, rubber, hard urethane, or combinations thereof.

101. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein said bridging regions are arranged in spaced apart rows.

102. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein the length of said bridging regions is substantially greater than the width of said bridging regions.

103. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein the length of said bridging regions is from about 0.125 inches to about 3 inches.

104. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein the length of said bridging regions is from about 0.375 inches to about 1.5 inches.

105. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein said bridging regions have a depth of from about 0.012 inches to about 0.12 inches.

106. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 96, wherein said bridging regions have a depth of from about 0.045 inches to about 0.06 inches.

107. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 96, wherein each said paper sheet layer forms a continuous paper web wound on a roll.

108. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 96, wherein each said paper sheet layer is individually stacked.

109. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 96, wherein each said paper sheet layer comprises a single-ply paper sheet.

110. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 96, wherein each said paper sheet layer comprises a multi-ply paper sheet.

111. (New) A wound paper product comprising:

a continuous paper sheet forming a plurality of paper sheet layers when wound into the paper product, said continuous paper sheet having an exterior surface that defines ridges and valleys oriented in a first direction, wherein said continuous paper sheet is wound such that said ridges and valleys of each said paper sheet layer are substantially parallel to said ridges and valleys of adjacent paper sheet layers; and

bridging regions formed into said exterior surface of said continuous paper sheet, said bridging regions extending outward from said exterior surface of said continuous paper sheet, said bridging regions having a length sufficient to extend across at least two of said ridges, said bridging regions having a length-to-depth ratio of from about 5:1 to about 40:1, said bridging regions at least partially obstructing said ridges and valleys of said surface of each paper sheet layer from mating with said ridges and valleys of said surface of adjacent paper sheet layers to inhibit nesting between each paper sheet layer when said continuous paper sheet is wound into the product.

112. (New) A wound paper product as in claim 111, wherein said continuous paper sheet is a single-ply paper sheet.

113. (New) A wound paper product as in claim 111, wherein said continuous paper sheet is a multi-ply paper sheet.